

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-15, and 19-21 are currently pending. Claims 1, 20 and 21 are the pending independent claims.

This supplemental amendment is being submitted following a telephone interview with the Examiner. In the interview, the Examiner requested that the Applicants clarify the meaning of the limitation "stable" in the claims.

The foregoing amendments clarify the meaning of the "stable" limitation by specifying, in Claims 1, 20, and 22, that the amount of G-CSF higher aggregates in the composition after storage for 1 month at 40 degrees C is no more than about 0.65 % of the amount of G-CSF in the composition. Support for this limitation may be found in the specification at page 19, Table 2.

In addition, the Applicants have also submitted new dependent Claims 22 – 24, in which the amount of G-CSF higher aggregates in the composition after storage for 1 month at 40 degrees C is more narrowly defined to be no more than about 0.13 % of the amount of G-CSF in the composition. Support for this limitation may be found in the specification at page 18, Table 1.

Aside from the "stable" limitation, the Examiner indicated that the claims were otherwise in a condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider the application and issue a notice of allowance at the earliest possible convenience.

In the event this response is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for the appropriate extension of time and request that the fee for the extension along with any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper be charged to our **Deposit Account No. 12-2355**.

Respectfully submitted,

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